

CLAIMS

1. A locking mechanism operable to restrict unauthorised access to a structure such as a house, the locking mechanism being operable to permit
5 external access, by means of at least one remote control device operable from outside the structure, the locking mechanism being arranged to cooperate with at least one internal safety device, for example a smoke detector or fire alarm, the locking mechanism being such that if the safety device is activated, this unlocks the locking mechanism to facilitate escape from the structure.
- 10 2. A locking mechanism as claimed in Claim 1, such that if the safety device is activated, to facilitate escape from the structure, access from outside the structure is still prevented, except by use of an authorised remote control device.
- 15 3. A locking mechanism as claimed in Claim 1, or Claim 2, in which activation of the safety device unlocks more than one locking mechanism so that more than one escape route is provided, for example through at least one door and/or at least one window.
- 20 4. A locking mechanism as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which the remote control device comprises a fob.
5. A structure fitted with a locking mechanism as claimed in any one of the
25 preceding claims.